

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SY-05 SS-15 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
SP-02 USIA-06 USSS-00 OPR-02 A-01 /066 W
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R 111423Z FEB 76
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4457

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director
(☒) Release () Excise () Deny

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 0933

Exemption(s): _____
~~Declassify~~: () In Part (☒) In Full DECLASSIFIED
() Classify as _____ () Extend as _____ () Downgrade to _____
Date _____ Declassify on _____ Reason _____

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINS, AR

SUBJECT: TERRORISTS ASSASSINATE LANUSSE'S DAUGHTER-IN-LAW;
MAKE ATTEMPT ON GENERAL VILAS'S LIFE

1. MARIA CARIDE DE LANUSSE, 26-YEAR-OLD DAUGHTER-IN-LAW OF FORMER ARGENTINE PRESIDENT GENERAL LANUSSE, WAS KILLED YESTERDAY WHEN A BOMB EXPLODED CONTAINED IN A PACKAGE THAT HAD BEEN PLACED BY HER FRONT DOOR. TO EMBASSY'S KNOWLEDGE MRS. LANUSSE HAS NOT TAKEN ANY ACTIVE ROLE IN POLITICAL AFFAIRS. NO ORGANIZATION HAS YET TAKEN CREDIT FOR HER ASSASSINATION.

2. IT WAS ALSO REVEALED YESTERDAY THAT AN ARMY CONSCRIPT, MIGUEL ROMERO, REPORTEDLY A MONTONERO MEMBER, HAD ATTEMPTED TO KILL GENERAL ACDEL VILAS. ACCORDING TO NEWS ACCOUNTS, THE CONSCRIPT HAD SERVED AS AN ORDERLY TO GENERAL VILAS AND HAD PLACED A "POWERFUL POISON" IN A BEVERAGE HE WAS SERVING HIM. WHEN RUMORS BEGAN TO CIRCULATE YESTERDAY THAT GENERAL VILAS HAD BEEN KILLED, ARMY SOURCES ADMITTED THAT HE HAD BEEN THE OBJECT OF A POISONING ATTEMPT BUT THAT IT HAD FAILED AND THAT VILAS WAS ALIVE AND WELL.

3. COMMENT: FACT THAT MONTONEROS WOULD WISH TO KILL GENERAL VILAS, WHO UNTIL RECENTLY WAS THE COMMANDER IN TUCUMAN RESPONSIBLE FOR THAT PROVINCE'S ANTI-TERRORIST CAMPAIGN, NOT SURPRISING.
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HOWEVER, DEATH OF MRS. LANUSSE APPEARS TO BE YET ANOTHER OF
THE BRUTAL AND SENSELESS KILLINGS WHICH HAVE BECOME ALL TOO
COMMONPLACE IN ARGENTINA.
HILL

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